

Though the book, according to the publishers, contains a review of the important evidence supporting the idea of the conversion of fats to carbohydrates, it is really what the author claims it to be, namely, a general review of the salient points concerning the preparation of food materials prior to their use, with emphasis on the question as to whether fats as well as proteins are converted into carbohydrates.

Professor Macleod's reputation as a physiologist is well known. The simplicity with which he presents this difficult subject demonstrates that he is also a teacher. The literature of this phase of metabolism has increased enormously within recent years and the data are scattered widely throughout the numerous journals. To those, therefore, who are interested in this subject, this book will be very welcome and useful. The modern clinician should find it of interest. To those concerned with the experimental side of medicine, particularly diabetes, the salient points brought out should supply much food for thought. It is obvious that the subject of the conversion of fat into glucose is still very highly controversial, and the work done so far and reviewed in this book, offers many suggestions for further research. Because of this alone, the book is strongly recommended.

I. M. RABINOWITCH

**Text-Book of Pharmacology and Therapeutics.** Hugh Alister McGuigan, Professor of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, University of Illinois. 6x9, 660 pages, numerous illustrations. Price \$6.00. W. B. Saunders Co., Phila. and London; Toronto, McAins and Co., 1928.

This well printed and excellently bound book is a credit to the publishers, but cannot be recommended to the medical profession or to students on account of the extraordinary lack of philosophic insight that is evident. The classification of the material is extraordinary. When one finds a section or chapter heading called "Lipins or Lipoids" which contains such a miscellaneous section as fats, cod liver oil, insulin, vitamins, essential oils, sterols, waxes, carbohydrates and glucosides, and when one finds a section on "Hypnotics and Narcotics" which does not contain opium or morphine one wonders what the principle of grouping can possibly be. Sections on individual drugs are in the main not badly written, but seem too often compilations from various other text-books. Typographical errors, not the fault of the printer, are not uncommon, for instance on page 407 it states that "stimulation of the post-ganglionic fibres from the ciliary ganglia after atropine causes constriction of the pupil." There is an obvious omission of the word "no," which completely destroys the sense and argument. The one advantage the book has is the attempt by the author to make the reader reason in regard to the site of action of drug stuffs.

V. E. HENDERSON

**Urology.** Daniel N. Eisendrath, M.D., and Harry Rolnick, M.D. 942 pages, illustrated. Price \$10.00. J. B. Lippincott Co., Montreal, 1928.

Of the several new text-books on urology which have been published during the past year, this latest addition is by no means the least worthy. Into it the authors have compressed an extraordinary amount of information, without any loss of clearness, or the volume becoming too ponderous. Concise, and yet complete, it covers the entire range of urology comprehensively. The underlying pathology of urological conditions, as necessary here as in other branches of medicine, is treated more adequately than in most text-books of its character. The subject matter is not burdened with unnecessary verbiage, and has the more important statements printed in a heavier type. Copious references to the literature are provided. Its most valuable feature lies in its wealth of illustrations

and coloured plates. These are well chosen and clearly portray the conditions they are intended to bring out. Urography has received the prominence in illustration the method deserves, and the examples are clear and excellently reproduced.

Among the special features in the book, may be selected the chapter on renal anomalies, reflecting the valuable work done by the senior author in this field; also the chapters on urological operations and post-operative complications. The newer urological methods have received adequate consideration, sacral anaesthesia, etc. The diseases of the male genitalia, including primary syphilis, have been given due space, and are not scrimped. Differential diagnostic tables will be found of great assistance to the student and general practitioner, for whom the book is designed.

The volume is well printed, and by no means its least merit lies in its typographical appearance. It is strongly reminiscent, though not slavishly so, of the best French teaching, and is a most valuable compendium of modern urological knowledge.

F. S. PATCH

**Lehrbuch der Röntgendiagnostik mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Chirurgie.** H. R. Schinz, W. Baensch, E. Friedl and others. 1131 pages, 1727 illustrations. Price 98 marks. Published by Georg Thieme, Leipzig, 1928.

This is a masterly work on roentgenology. It is a clinical guide to nearly all that x-rays have shown up to the present. It contains features which are an advance on any previous similar work. It is a book of reference for the x-ray specialist and also for the physician and surgeon. In the introduction it is pointed out that auscultation, percussion, and x-ray findings are physical methods which must all be used in order to give a complete physical examination. The immense collection of illustrations it contains makes it of great value as an atlas: they are excellent and each has a short description along with it. The placing of photographs of pathological specimens with the x-ray pictures is a feature of the book which distinguishes it from any previous text-book on x-rays. This illustrates the object of the writer in making it a clinical text-book with x-rays as its main foundation. In every illustration one can see what the writer describes. This cannot be said for many x-ray illustrations in other text-books. The publisher, however, has managed to turn two of the best illustrations upside down (1205 and 1554).

There are two tables which show in graphic form the times of ossification and union of epiphyses. These tables could with advantage be copied and lie on the desk of every x-ray specialist for ready reference. About 400 pages are devoted to bones and joints. In this section there is a wealth of information and the illustrations are exceptionally good. A few examples of interest to radiologists especially are chondromatosis, lymphogranulomatosis, osteopoikilia, scleroderma, immature marble bones, periostitis proliferans, etc. In the case of osteochondritis dissecans, Schintz includes this condition in the classification of loose bodies in the joint. Perhaps the only illustration which does not show all it is meant to is No. 237, which is said to show calcified tuberculosis of the spine.

For the general surgeon the description of common and uncommon fractures and diseases of bone is of great value. The classification and the excellent index makes information on any subject easily obtained. A new section is that dealing with x-ray information on soft parts, such as gas abscess, surgical emphysema, arteriosclerosis, aneurysms, phleboliths, dermoids and calcified cysticercus. For the internist 372 pages devoted to diseases and conditions of the chest are of great interest. The German method of giving actual photographic prints in important cases is used to great

advantage in nine illustrations of the apices of the lungs, showing the detail of pulmonary tuberculosis with the least loss of detail. This part of the book is divided among several writers. Ulrich writes on the trachea, Liebmans on the bronchi and lungs and pleura and Hotz on lung tuberculosis and pleuritis in children. In this section the internist will find a wide field covered. It is well illustrated and well indexed and treats fully of common diseases but does not miss out rarer conditions such as actinomycosis and mycosis fungoides. A considerable section is devoted to the heart, aorta and mediastinum.

Nearly 300 pages are devoted to the alimentary tract and describe and illustrate everything the radiologist is likely to meet with in ten years or more. Pneumoperitoneum and Graham gall bladder examinations are described and well illustrated. The genito-urinary tract is shortly but clearly dealt with in some 100 pages. Gynaecology is the only branch of medicine and surgery which gets little notice. Special branches, viz., ear, nose and throat and ophthalmology each have their section and each is well treated. Some 50 pages are devoted to the use of x-rays in diagnosis of diseases of the central nervous system by means of injected air and lipiodol. This is a comparatively new branch of x-rays and is very fully treated for its present infant condition.

To the doctor who reads German freely this book should be his Osler of roentgenology. To those who do not read German easily the illustrations make it the best x-ray atlas yet published. It should be in the library of every radiologist, in every medical library, and at hand for reference by surgeons and internists. An extensive bibliography follows each section, unfortunately the references are nearly all to German sources. The absence of references to English writers is rather evident.

A. HOWARD PIRIE

**Gastro-Intestinal Diseases.** Lectures delivered at the James Mackenzie Institute for Clinical Research, St. Andrew's Winter Session, 1927. Edited by Professor David Waterston, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. 278 pages, illustrated. Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, London, 1928.

A glance at the list of the eleven authors immediately suggests an interesting volume and indeed one is not disappointed. Each author treats his subject in a most entertaining and instructive manner, mingling the experimental with the practical. This clinical application of laboratory experimental work is very valuable. The importance of co-operation between clinical and laboratory work is demonstrated in more than one address.

The whole group constitutes a most delightful symposium on gastro-intestinal diseases and will be read with much interest, even with the absence from the list of our old friend, appendicitis.

The James McKenzie Institute for Clinical Research is to be congratulated on the publication of this volume.

G. S. FAHRNI

**Goitre Prevention and Thyroid Protection.** Israel Bram, M.D., 327 pages, illustrated. Price \$4.00 net. F. A. Davis Co., Philadelphia, 1928.

It is early explained in the preface that the scope of this book is arranged so that it may be equally useful to the intelligent layman and to the physician in charge of goitre patients.

The anatomy and physiology of the thyroid gland are first reviewed as a prelude to the consideration of the changes that occur in health and disease, with an explanation of hypo- and hyper-thyroidism.

The subject of endemic goitre and goitre belts especially in the United States is then taken up. As

may be expected the position of iodine therapy is carefully and thoroughly discussed. The conclusions arrived at are that "the use of iodine as a preventative of goitre has been amply proved to be a tremendous service in the interests of public health." But as certain individuals are particularly sensitive to iodine, the administration must be carried out under proper guidance. Lastly it is very necessary to clearly understand that the use of iodine for prevention and its use as a cure are two entirely separate problems. The position of the adenomatous or tumorous goitre is then considered with a discussion on the selection of appropriate subjects for surgical treatment.

Four chapters are devoted to the many questions associated with the etiology and treatment of exophthalmic goitre. The relationship of this disease to the other types of goitre and its close connection with the other ductless glands of the body are carefully considered. The dangers of surgery and the difficulties of medical treatment are also emphasized. Some general consideration of diet and health habits are followed by a short chapter on the ductless glands.

The author has undoubtedly attacked a most difficult and important problem and has succeeded in making the subject clear, even if at times he is slightly dogmatic. A doubt may arise in one's mind as to how much the intelligent layman without medical training will really carry away with him; but the fault here will not be due to the author's method of expression or his power of explanation, but to the laymen's lack of the essential underlying knowledge of anatomy and pathology.

L. J. AUSTIN

**Index of Differential Diagnosis of Main Symptoms,** by various writers. Edited by Herbert French, C.B.E., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. 1171 pages, illustrated. Price \$18.00. John Wright & Sons, Britol. Canadian Agents, Macmillan Company, Toronto, 1928.

This is one of those books which it is a pleasure merely to look through: the printing, the quality of the paper, the number and excellence of the illustrations, are all of the highest standard. The illustrations indeed are so many and so well chosen that they form a miniature "Nouvelle Iconographie," but of course including a variety of subjects not found in that famous collection. There are altogether 701, as compared with 213 in an earlier edition.

This in itself is well enough, and perhaps in these days of good reproductions is no more than is to be expected. But the text is no less admirable. It is the combined work of a group of contributors, including such men as Sir F. Buzzard, Robert Hutchison, G. E. Salk, Sir Archibald Garrod, Arthur Hurst, and several others, with Dr. Herbert French editing and contributing as well.

There is no other work quite corresponding to this in arrangement. It combines the mere listing of symptoms with a discussion on the method of distinguishing between the various diseases in which each individual symptom may be observed. In addition to this there are several instances in which short accounts of the disease itself are given, thus still further relieving the book from the bareness of a mere catalogue. An improvement has been made in the index by putting the general account of each main disorder at the beginning of each section and in heavy type.

There is a much enlarged section on anæmia, with illustrations designed not only to show the various changes in the blood which occur in the different anæmias, but also to emphasize the sources of infection which may be responsible for the anæmia. Other subjects have received corresponding expansion.

The book is no more an infallible key to the